

VIIKANA 1/1970<sup>1</sup>

## UFO-NEWS IN THE FINNISH PRESS

The following selection comprises just a fractional part of the UFO-news published in the Finnish press. Also three news items dating back to the end of last year have been included in the list. The dates indicate when the sightings took place.

28.4.61 In the Soviet-Carelia on the shore of a lake a mysterious pit was detected. The pit was not caused by an explosion. Near the pit there was green-coloured ice and some peculiar grains. Careful scientific research work has not solved the mystery of the pit. ("MAAILMA JA ME" (World and We), December 1970).

28.11.69. Near Järvenpää a journalist, Mr. Seppo Porvali and a photographer Mr. Seppo Valjakka saw from the car a strong light phenomenon causing slight burns on the hands of the journalist. During the time the phenomenon lasted the car motor did not function, also the radio kept silent. ("NYRKKIPOSTI" (Fist Post) December 1970).

29.11.70 an UFO followed a passenger aeroplane in the vicinity of Kuopio. The flight control officier, Mr. Kalle Linden told that as the plane descended there was "something strange in the air". The phenomenon was observed by radar (Etelä-Suomen Sanomat (News of South-Finland, 15.12.1970).

### UFO-Flap of last January:

3.1. At Saapunki in Kuusamo a light phenomenon melted snow in the courtyard of farmer Mauno Talala.

5.1. At Pudasjärvi several light phenomena were seen in the sky. Eye-witnesses among others: bus driver Mauno Lammela and Atte Särkelä. ("KAIEVA" and "KAINUUN SANOMAT" (Kainuu News).

5.1. At the border of Seinäjoki and Peräseinäjoki an odd light phenomenon for a few minutes followed the car of a married couple, both of them teachers from Kemi. ("IKKA").

6.1. At Pudasjärvi and Suomussalmi quite a few people observed in the sky lights behaving in a peculiar manner. ("AAMULEHTI" (Morning paper)).

8.1. At Eräjärvi in the vicinity of a farmhouse strange, round traces were detected. These traces began from nowhere and ended suddenly. On the night when the traces appeared the housedog barked furiously. Despite the moonlight the farmer's wife did not notice anything special. ("AAMULEHTI").

11.1. In Kuusamo a formation of 16 UFOs were seen for approximately 5 minutes in the sky. ("LIITTO" (Union)).

13.1. At Pintamo in the timber-cutting area of Piri Urpo Illikainen and Aatto Tumelius saw an UFO which looked "twice bigger as the moon". The phenomenon was visible for half an hour. ("KAINUUN SANOMAT").

14.1. In the sky of Iapteenranta peculiar, moving lights were seen. Their origin is supposed to be oil fires on the Soviet side of the border. ("ETELÄ-SAIMAA").

15.1. At Pintamo in the timber-cutting area of Piri Eetu Niskasaari saw from his car a bright oval-shaped UFO. ("KAINUUN SANOMAT").

17.1. A strange light phenomenon was seen in Oulu both from a passenger plane and from the ground. Its origin is presumed to be the rocket tests performed at Kiruna. ("KAINUUN SANOMAT").

17.1. At Lieto a TV-cameraman Erkki Paakki saw a bright, ball-shaped light in the sky. The phenomenon remained stationary for quite a long time. ("HELSINGIN SANOMAT" (News of Helsinki)).



18.1. At Niemenmäki in Helsinki a family observed in the sky two light phenomena descending slowly vertically downward. ("ILTA-SANOMAT" (Evening News).

23.1. At Sukeva a prison guard, Mr. Reino Salminen saw an UFO like a flying ball. ("ETEENPÄIN" (Forward).

28.1. In the rural commune of Kemi two school children Airi Jääskö and Taina Vierto saw in the sky two UFOs approaching each other from the opposite directions. After they met the flying objects continued their course in the same direction. ("POHJOLAN SANOMAT" (News of North).

2.2. At Myllykoski in Ylistaro peculiar round traces were found in the courtyard of a deserted farmhouse. In the nearby greenhouse 34 windows were broken on the same night. Later a student told he had made the traces using lids of cucumber pot. ("VAASA").

2.2. On the Oulu-Kuusamo highway the school children Tarja Tyni and Aini Määttä observed a smoke-emitting saucer-shaped object in the sky. ("LIITTO").

2.2. At Kiiminki Mrs. Sinikka Kuittinen and Mrs. Manninen observed from the car a light phenomenon following them at a height of about 10 metres. After the object had disappeared an about a metre tall entity wearing a green-brown dress leaped across the road. It vanished on the other side of the road.

2.2. At Pudasjärvi Atte Särkelä and Veikko Haverinen observed two flying light phenomena. ("KAINUUN SANOMAT").

3.2. In the naval area of Rauma and Pori a "kettle-shaped" UFO was seen. A patrol of the naval guard station of Pirskeri detected a 5 x 7 metre big melted mark on the ice in the area where the UFO was seen. ("SOSIAALIDEMOKRAATTI" (Socialdemocrat).

The latest interesting UFO-sighting in February was seen in Turku on 22.2. According to "TURUN SANOMAT" five people saw a bright flying object in the sky. On the same evening a resident of Turku met a very singular creature. This "creature" resembled in his appearance a tramp. The odd vagabond asked the man to follow him, and he did so. Soon the man lost his memory completely. After having recovered, he noticed that he had been standing for more than an hour on the same spot in the intense cold. The stranger had not left any footprints. The man told that the odd vagabond just disappeared in the air, and then he lost his memory. The man who related the incident told that he had always held himself mentally sane, but did not understand what he had experienced.

#### UFO-PHENOMENA IN NORTHERN FINLAND

Matias Päätaalo:

In recent times, a lot news on UFO-sightings in northern and northeastern Finland have been published in the Finnish press. Below a resume of the most important sightings is given.

Nearly an endless sequence of UFO-sightings have taken place in the following localities: Puolanka, Hyrynsalmi, Pudasjärvi, Kuusamo, UFO-phenomena of less importance have also occurred in other localities.

##### At Iylykylä in Puolanka

On 25th September Mrs. Enni Seppänen, a farmer's wife, went to fetch the mail from Siltala's postbox at Tikkala. While standing at the postbox she observed at a distance of 200 metres a thick cloud of smoke on the road resembling that emitted by a steam engine.

Mrs Seppänen was wondering at the peculiar cloud of smoke and noticed that from amidst rose an object resembling an electric bulb or a pear. In the upper part of the object a protuding part was swaying to and fro. She got the impression that the whole object was grey in colour. When interviewed Mrs. Seppänen told that the object was about 10 metres tall and 4-5 metres wide. At the moment of the sighting it rose slowly above the treetops and flew southward in the direction of Hyttikylä in Hyrynsalmi. Mrs. Seppänen detected neither voices nor smells. At the moment of the sighting the weather was dry, but there were clouds in the sky. The sighting occurred between 10.30 - 11.00 o'clock. It can be mentioned that Mrs. Seppänen told that she saw a similar object a year ago on the same spot. She was interviewed by reporter Matti Vainio from Ylä-Kainuu section of the UFO-club of Oulu.

As early as in 1947 Mrs. Seppänen experienced a significant UFO-case. While she was working in the hayfield a bright round ball appeared in the sky. When the ball began to descend Mrs. Seppänen fainted (apparently for fear). When she came back to her senses the weather seemed to her like a dark autumn evening, although it was July. After the incident Mrs. Seppänen felt sick for weeks, and her eyes smarted very much. After the sighting on 25th September 1970 Mrs. Seppänen also felt slight smarting in her eyes.

#### A peculiar mark in the courtyard

In the middle of December, on Sunday the 13th a strange phenomenon was seen at Hepovaara in Puolanka. The people of Mattila farmhouse went to sleep in the normal way on Sunday night. The boy Ari Pyykkönen slept in the living room. Suddenly he woke up when the dog came growling to his bed. At the same time he noticed that the room was brightly lit and that the light came from outside. Ari went to the window and saw that near the house a bright object emitting dazzling light was hovering very low. After some time the bright light ball bounced



straight upwards vanishing in the sky. At the same time some kind of rumbling was heard.

Ari Pyykkönen woke his parents, but it was too late. They did not see anything except that their 8-year-old son Ari was pale and perspiring all over.

At dawn a T-shaped mark was found around the corner of the farmhouse where the phenomenon took place. The mark was one metre long, 30 cm in width and several centimetres in depth. On the trace the snow was pressed tightly down to the earth. There was no sign of melting or freezing.

At the same time in the neighbouring farmhouse Lakela a 12-year-old girl Pirjo Rusanen let the cat out and saw a bright light in Mattila's courtyard. She further related that the white bright light emitted sparkles.

#### A REMARKABLE UFO CASE IN KUUSAMO

##### A melted spot in the earth

On January 3rd at 3.15 a.m. an UFO-case which has aroused much attention and provoked widespread stir and agitation occurred at Saapunki in Kuusamo. Farmer Mauno Talala and his wife Martta made the principal sighting in their courtyard.

However, the first eyewitness was Mr. Eetu Pätsi, a pensioned farmer, who detected a bright light moving over Saapunki lake. It was slowly approaching the village of Saapunki. Mr. Kaarlo Häyhä, a lay preacher, also saw the white light which, according to his description, shone brightly in the Talala courtyard like a welding flame.

At 6.15 a.m. Mauno and Martta Talala were taking their morning coffee. Suddenly the room and the whole landscape in a flash became bright white. The reason for the flash could easily be detected: a shining light phenomenon in their field at approximately 20 metre distance from the house. The light was so

bright against the window that it was impossible to look straight at it. The phenomenon lit the trees on an island in Saapunki lake (300 metres away).

The light phenomenon lasted for about a minute. Then the electricity was cut off. Mr. and Mrs. Talala were scared at the phenomenon. They first thought of a fire, but then established that it was just a peculiar bright light.

The light phenomenon was also seen by Anna and Edvard Saapunki living in the neighbouring farmhouse. They first thought Talalas' cow stable had caught fire, but soon changed their minds. The bright iridescent light moved in the Talala courtyard for a while, and the neighbours saw how it rose up in the air and disappeared in the southwestern sky. Afterwards the light phenomenon was sighted from several houses and also in neighbouring parishes.

At daybreak the children found on the spot of the sighting a trace where the snow had melted. It was slightly oblong, triangular and 2,3 x 5,7 meters in size. In the centre of the vestige there were peculiar looking sharp-pointed dark green icicles. Mr. Talala wondered at the formation, and thought that the incident should have been reported somewhere because the formation should surely be of interest to other people too. Mr. Matti Kyllönen, the editor of "KOILLISSANOMAT" visited the spot and photographed the trace which was already slightly covered by new snow. It could be established that under the sharp-pointed green-coloured icicles there was ordinary bright 5 cm thick ice. The surface of the ground was still frozen. Farmer Talala brought home some ice in a glass taken from the vestige and melted it. The smell was really odd. At the same time the greenish ice water and the remaining sediment began to change colour becoming reddish-grey.

#### The investigations of the UFO-case

A day and a night had lapsed from the Saapunki phenomenon when the case was communicated to the UFO-club of Oulu, and immediately a group of investigators



was organized to visit the spot of the sighting. The first investigators were Dir. Esko Häme, Mrs. Marja-Liisa Häme, Mrs. Ritva Karivieri and a student of biology Olli Pajula. They had interviews with the eyewitnesses which also were recorded on tape. The vestige was further photographed and several pots were filled with samples taken from the ice. Radioactive radiation was no more detected.

The group of investigators established that the account of the eyewitnesses tallied and that the sighting was authentic and fresh.

The laboratory phase of the investigations began in Oulu under the leadership of the research chief of the UFO-Club of Oulu, Eng. Ahti J. Karivieri, and the initial research was performed in the laboratory of Oulu Osakeyhtiö under the direction of their head chemist, Mr. Juha Alhojärvi, M. Sc. Eng. In the first sample organic substances, i. e. plant cell tissue, were discovered. Of this substance part was presumed to originate from the soil from where the samples were taken, but later on the investigators found out that this was not correct.

The pH-value of the organic substances in sample No. 1 was only 4,8 instead of the normal one 6,5 - 7.

In the radiological analysis made in Oulu titanium was detected. Also other substances were discovered in the following order of abundance: calcium, calcium, silicium, iron, chloride, titanium and sodium.

The most curious fact was that titanium appeared organic in the vegetable substances. At the Botanic Institute of the University of Oulu, Mr. Matti Kauppi, M. A. as private researcher carried out a biological test on a sample taken from the vestige. The test revealed 10 % plant cell tissue of a higher level. The sample further contained plant residue that was in a far-advanced state of decomposition, and. e. g. just a few particles of dust and sand. In the dirt was also found mycelium and pigment resembling antosyan which in the subsequent



investigation could not be proved to be antosium.

#### State-wide research

At the instigation of the research chief, Eng. Ahti J. Karivieri was created a group on State level investigating primarily samples of the Kuusamo UFO-vestige. The sample has been analyzed at the Institute of Wood and Plastic Chemistry by two university researchers whose names will be revealed later in connection with the final investigation report of the UFO-Club of Oulu.

The researchers of Helsinki University found out by means of acid alkali titration that the pH-value of the sample was approx. 3, and if the question were of the alleged blueberry parts the said value should be 7. The investigators established that the question could be of a colour complex, of which the centre atom could be a metal.

A microscopic test revealed that besides vegetable fibres the sample contained algae and mycelium, which also was found out in Oulu.

Moreover, the researcher of moon stones, Dr. Wiik's statement cannot be considered seriously, and its contents could be indisputably disproved already before it was given.

#### A comparative research

In order to carry out a comparative research the UFO-Club of Oulu arranged a new sample lot to be secured from Kuusamo, and samples were taken from different spots near the vestige, i. e., at approx. 15 metre distance from the centre of the trace. The samples were examined in a melted state, and they were bright and colourless. The pH of the comparative sample lot varied between 5,6 and 6,5. In the UFO-vestige the conductivity was correspondingly 240. The purest of the comparative samples contained 1,5 milligrams precipitate, the corresponding figure for the "doorstep samples" was 33,7

milligrams and for the vestige 55 milligrams.

In all the comparative samples the pure snow which came down latest was taken off. The off-takes contained the same substances as the old snow. As to the off-takes also the samples taken from the earth surface were preserved in order to determine the corresponding surface layers.

### Flights in formation

On the Monday following the UFO-phenomenon a great many different sightings were made at Ylä-Kainuu, Ämmänsaari, Hakokylä in Hyrynsalmi, Hossa and Taivalkoski.

In Kajaani, on 5th January, 1971, a cigar-shaped object was visible for two hours. At Murtomäki, on 4.1.71 an unidentified object was flying near the electric lines with the consequence that a television set and an electric stove got broken in a nearby house.

The quantitative record was again attained in Kuusamo. On Monday morning, 11.1.71, at 2.50 - 03.10 o'clock an official living in Kuusamo who does not want to disclose his name in public, observed 16 bright objects flying over Kuusamo village in a sort of formation. The sighter woke up his family to watch the phenomenon, and according to their report the following was seen:

The UFOs flew at a gradated height and according to the watch they crossed the sky in five minutes, so their speed was rather slow. The UFOs flying highest had the shape of a ball and they were extremely bright. It was difficult to establish the altitude. Those flying lowest were soaring at the level of the hazy clouds and they were reddish. The latter also left behind a fire tail, which the former did not do. The UFOs flew from east to west straight in the direction of the mountain Syöte in Pudasjärvi, but the escadrille was not seen there.